Atty's 23314 Pat. App. Not known - US phase of PCT/DE2003/003939

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Amended Patent Claims

- (original) A method of digital image processing in CMOS camera images, characterized in that the variation in time of the output signal value g is a combination of the term c*g and the source term q and the calculation of the target signal value q comprises the subtraction of the term c*g from the variation in time of the output signal value g of the image data.
- (original) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that for regions of the image data with high contrast, a parameter estimation or approximation is carried out.
- (currently amended) The method according to one of the claims 1 to 2 claim 1, characterized in that for the parameter estimation or approximation, the "total least squares" (TLS), "ordinary least squares" (OLS), "Mixed OLS-TLS" and/or variation methods is used.
- 4. (currently amended) The method according to ene-of claims 1 to 3 claim 1, characterized in that the decay constant c and/or the object shift u is determined by parameter approximation from the image data.

Atty's 23314 Pat. App. Not known - US phase of PCT/DE2003/003939

- 5. (currently amended) The method according to one of claims 1 to 4 claim 1, characterized in that the decay constant c is determined by calibration of the camera.
- 6. (currently amended) The method according to one of claims 1 to 5 claim 1, characterized in that the differential equation (1)

$$\frac{dg(x,y,t)}{dt} = c(x,y,t)g(x,y,t) + q(x,y,t) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{\partial g}{\partial x}u_x + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}u_y + \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} - c(x,y,t)g(x,y,t) - q(x,y,t) = 0....(1)$$

with

g = the gray value of the image sequence

u = object shift (vector field shift)

c = decay constant

q = source term (light) of interest

is used.

7. (currently amended) The method according to ene of claims 1 to 6 claim 1, characterized in that known object movements u_x and u_y are introduced directly into differential equation (1).

Atty's 23314 Pat. App. Not known - US phase of PCT/DE2003/003939

- 8. (currently amended) The method according to one-of claims 1 to 7 claim 1, characterized in that it is implemented by field programmable gate arrays (FPGA's).
- 9. (currently amended) A device for digital image processing in CMOS camera images, characterized in that it is suitable for carrying out the method according to claims 1 to 8 claim 1.